

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 199107 TOSEC 090036  
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY D:WCHRISTOPHER/AF:WEDMONDSON:SAH  
APPROVED BY D:WCHRISTOPHER  
NSC:MR BRZEZINSKI  
S?S SGOLDSMITH

-----126448 212352Z /65

Z O 212340Z AUG 77 ZFF6  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USDEL SECRETARY AIRCRAFT FLASH  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE  
INFO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 199107 TOSEC 090036

NODIS  
CHEROKEE FOR AMB YOUNG AND ASST SECY MOOSE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PARM, SF

SUBJECT: CONTINGENCY TALKING POINTS ON SOUTH AFRICA NUCLEAR  
QUESTION

1. AS YOU WILL SEE FROM BOWDLER'S REPORTING AND SUBSEQUENT  
CABLE PROVIDING YOU WITH PROVISIONAL PUBLIC STATEMENT TO BE  
MADE AT LAGOS CONFERENCE, WE HAVE MADE GOOD PROGRESS IN  
OBTAINING SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES REGARDING  
THEIR NUCLEAR PROGRAM. SINCE WE ARE CONTINUING  
OUR DELICATE CONVERSATIONS WITH THEM WITH REGARD TO LONGER  
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TERM PROBLEMS, YOU WILL APPRECIATE THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO  
MINIMIZE DISCUSSION OF THE NUCLEAR MATTERS SO AS NOT TO  
JEOPARDIZE PROGRESS ALREADY MADE OR ENDANGER OUR WORK ON  
OTHER PROBLEM AREAS. WHILE WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE NUCLEAR  
QUESTION MAY BE A PRIME TOPIC, WE HOPE YOU CAN PICK AND  
CHOOSE CAREFULLY THE KEY AFRICAN LEADERS WITH WHOM YOU WILL  
BE TALKING ABOUT THIS SUBJECT PRIOR TO YOUR PUBLIC STATE-

MENT.

2. TO THE EXTENT THAT YOU ARE UNABLE TO AVOID DEALING WITH  
THE SUBJECT, YOU MAY DRAW UPON THE FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS:

A. WE VIEW WITH GRAVE CONCERN RECENT ALLEGATIONS THAT  
SOUTH AFRICA MAY BE ACQUIRING A NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE CAPABILITY.

B. PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IS ONE OF  
PRESIDENT CARTER'S TOP PRIORITIES AND WE WOULD VIEW WITH  
THE UTMOST SERIOUSNESS SOUTH AFRICA'S ACQUISITION OF A  
NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE CAPABILITY.

C. WE HAVE BEEN IN RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH SAG AND HAVE  
OBTAINED FIRM ASSURANCES THAT THEY ARE NOT DEVELOPING AND  
WILL NOT DEVELOP OR TEST NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES. THIS IS  
AN ENCOURAGING RESPONSE WHICH WE HOPE TO BE ABLE TO MAKE  
PUBLIC IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

D. WE HAVE ALSO INTENSIFIED OUR EFFORT TO PERSUADE SOUTH  
AFRICA TO PLACE ALL ITS NUCLEAR FACILITIES UNDER FULL  
INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS AND TO DECLARE ITS INTENTION TO  
SIGN THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY.

E. BECAUSE THIS MATTER IS BEING URGENTLY PURSUED, WE HOPE  
THAT ACTIONS PROPOSED BY OTHERS WILL BE FRAMED SO AS NOT  
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TO JEOPARDIZE THESE ON-GOING EFFORTS.

3. THESE TALKING POINTS WERE REVIEWED BY THE PRESIDENT  
AND WE ARE TOLD BY THE WHITE HOUSE THAT THEY HAVE BEEN  
APPROVED.  
CHRISTOPHER

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PAGE 01 STATE 199107  
ORIGIN NODS-00

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O: SGOLDSMITH: JP

APPROVED BY: S/S-O: SGOLDSMITH

-----127854 220546Z /17

O 220530Z AUG 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 199107

NODIS

CHEROKEE WHITE HOUSE FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 199107 ACTION SECRETARY AIRCRAFT LAGOS INFO  
SECRETARY BONN LONDON PARIS PRETORIA AUG 21.

QUOTE S E C R E T STATE 199107 TOSEC 090036

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DRAFTED BY S/S:DANDERSON  
APPROVED BY S/S:DANDERSON

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O 221815Z AUG 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 199107

NODIS  
CHEROKEE ONLY FOR AMB LEONARD

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 199107 TOSEC 090036 ACTION SECRETARY  
LAGOS INFO BONN LONDON PARIS PRETORIA AUG 21.

QUOTE S E C R E T STATE 199107 TOSEC 090036

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CHRISTOPHER UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, TOSEC, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, NUCLEAR TESTS, CAT-B, CHEROKEE 08/21/77  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** WCHRISTOPHER/AF:WEDMONDSON:SAH  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X3  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 4a80fa56-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
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**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
**Page Count:** 6  
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**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1533729  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CONTINGENCY TALKING POINTS ON SOUTH AFRICA NUCLEAR QUESTION  
**TAGS:** PARM, MNUC, US, SF  
**To:** SECRETARY LAGOS MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/4a80fa56-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009